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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/590,594	06/09/2000	JAMES J. KOSMACH	PF02072NA	1575
20280	7590	05/26/2005	EXAMINER	
MOTOROLA INC 600 NORTH US HIGHWAY 45 ROOM AS437 LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048-5343			CHANG, EDITH M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2637	

DATE MAILED: 05/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/590,594	Applicant(s) KOSMACH ET AL. OK	
	Examiner Edith M. Chang	Art Unit 2637	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 8-12, 16 and 20-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-7, 13-15, 17-19 and 25 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on March 10, 2005, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. New rejections are set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

- (1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,
- (2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1-25 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claims 1 & 25, lines 3 & 5: “each symbol” is suggested changing to “each of received symbols”.

Claim 3 line 3 & Claim 15 lines 2-3: “the candidate” is suggested changing to “the plurality of candidate”.

Claims 6-7, 11-12, 18-19 & 23-24, line 2: “the symbols” is suggested changing to “the potential symbols”.

Art Unit: 2637

Claim 10, line 2: “each received symbol” is suggested changing to “each of received symbols”.

Claim 13, lines 4 & 6: “each symbol” is suggested changing to “each of received symbols”.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 8-9, 14, 16, 17, and 20-22 are directly or indirectly dependent on the objected claims 1 and 13.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 4, 8-12, 16, and 20-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 4 & 16, line 2: “the greatest bit metric” is indefinite and lacks antecedent basis.

Claims 8 & 20, line 4: “the potential symbols values” lacks antecedent basis that the parents claims cite “potential symbols” and “energy values”, and it does not clearly indicate what is “the potential symbols values”.

Claims 9 & 21, lines 1-2: “the soft energy values” lacks antecedent basis that the “soft energy values” is not cited anywhere in the parent claims.

Claims 11-12 & 23-24, lines 3-4: “the soft symbol energy” lacks antecedent basis.

Claims 10, and 22 are dependent on the rejected claims 8 and 20.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 13-15, 17-19 and 25 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection(s), set forth in this Office action.

6. Claims 4, 8-11, 16, and 20-25 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest, alone or in a combination, among other things, at least a receiver and its method for assigning bit metrics for a algebraic decoding as a whole, the combination of elements and features, which includes a decoder generating a first set of bit metrics for a first phase of the receiver which is related to the most significant bits of the received symbols in a received word generated by a detector and a second set of bit metrics for a second phase of the receiver which is related to the least significant bits of the received symbols in the received word, and further the decoder identifying the least reliable bits in the received word based on one of the first and second sets of bit metrics.

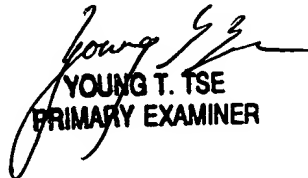
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edith M. Chang whose telephone number is 571-272-3041. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jayanti Patel can be reached on 571-272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2637

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Edith Chang
May 20, 2005


YOUNG T. TSE
PRIMARY EXAMINER